

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 37. (cancelled)

Claim 38. (currently amended) A method of playing a game, comprising:

- 2 (a) beginning the game with a player's game piece operatively on a starting non-
absorbent point in a row of at least two non-absorbent points, said row
4 bounded on one end by a first absorbent point and on the other end by a
second absorbent point;
- 6 (b) ~~placing~~ receiving at least one wager that the game piece will be moved to the
first absorbent point before being moved to the second absorbent point;
- 8 (c) observing an event that dictates to which point the game piece must be
moved, wherein a first outcome of the observed event causes said dictated
10 point ~~selected from the points on either~~ to be on one side of the point on
which the game piece is currently operatively on, and wherein a second
12 outcome of the observed event causes the dictated point to be on the other
side of said current operative point;

- 14 (d) determining whether the dictated point is a non-absorbent point, the first
absorbent point, or the second absorbent point;
- 16 (e) moving the game piece to said dictated point and repeating at least steps (c)
and (d) if the dictated point is a non-absorbent point ~~regardless of whether or~~
18 ~~not the game piece ever previously occupied the dictated point;~~
- (f) awarding the player the at least one wager if the dictated point is the first
20 absorbent point; and
- (g) denying the player the at least one wager if the dictated point is the second
22 absorbent point.

Claim 39. (previously added) The method of claim 38 further comprising
2 calculating an inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the dictated
point is a non-absorbent point.

Claim 40. (previously added) The method of claim 38 further comprising
2 selecting a starting non-absorbent point from more than one available starting
non-absorbent points.

Claim 41. (previously added) The method of claim 38 wherein the starting non-
2 absorbent point becomes a first or second absorbent point after the first move of
the game.

Claim 42. (previously added) The method of claim 38 wherein the observed
2 event involves one or more decks of cards, one or more dice, one or more
coins, a roulette wheel, a sporting event, a horse race, a meteorological event,
4 or a computer.

Claim 43. (currently amended) A method of playing a game, comprising:

- 2 (a) beginning the game with a player's game piece operatively on a starting non-
absorbent point on a multi-dimensional game board comprising a plurality of
4 non-absorbent points surrounded by a plurality of absorbent points;
- (b) ~~placing~~ receiving at least one wager that the game piece will be moved to a
6 first absorbent point before being moved to a second absorbent point;
- (c) observing ~~an event~~ one or more events that dictates which adjacent point the
8 game piece must be moved to, said one or more events providing for at least
a first outcome and a second outcome, wherein the first outcome dictates a
10 first dictated adjacent point to which the game piece must be moved and the
second outcome dictates a second dictated adjacent point to which the game
12 piece must be moved, and wherein the first and second dictated adjacent
points are in generally opposite directions from the point on which the game
14 piece is currently operatively on;
- (d) determining whether said dictated adjacent point is a non-absorbent point, a
16 first absorbent point, or a second absorbent point;

- (e) moving the game piece to said dictated adjacent point and repeating at least
18 steps (c) and (d) if said dictated adjacent point is a non-absorbent point
~~regardless of whether or not the game piece ever previously occupied the~~
20 ~~dictated adjacent point;~~
- (f) awarding the player the at least one wager if said dictated adjacent point is a
22 first absorbent point; and
- (g) denying the player the at least one wager if said dictated adjacent point is a
24 second absorbent point.

Claim 44. (previously added) The method of claim 43 wherein the observed
2 event involves a first dice and a second dice,

wherein half of the faces on the first dice dictate moving the game piece in a
4 first direction and the other half of the faces on the first dice dictate
moving the game piece in a second direction opposite said first direction,
6 wherein half of the faces on the second dice dictate moving the game piece
in a third direction and the other half of the faces on the second dice
8 dictate moving the game piece in a fourth direction opposite said third
direction.

Claim 45. (previously added) The method of claim 44 wherein the first direction
2 is oblique to said third direction.

Claim 46. (previously added) The method of claim 43 wherein the non-absorbent
2 points are oriented in a north, south, east, and west orientation to one another or
a northwest, northeast, southwest, or southeast orientation to one another;

Claim 47. (previously added) The method of claim 43 wherein one or more
2 absorbent points are interspersed among the non-absorbent points at
predetermined locations in addition to the plurality of absorbent points that
4 surround the non-absorbent points.

Claim 48. (previously added) The method of claim 43 further comprising
2 calculating an inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the dictated
adjacent point is a non-absorbent point.

Claim 49. (previously added) The method of claim 43 the wager involves a
2 selection of a particular one or more first absorbent points from more than one
first absorbent points.

Claim 50. (previously added) The method of claim 43 wherein the wager
2 involves a selection of a particular one or more second absorbent points from
more than one second absorbent points.

Claim 51. (currently amended) A method of playing a game, comprising:

- 2 (a) ~~placing~~ receiving at least one wager that a game piece will be moved to a
first absorbent point before being moved to a second absorbent point, said
4 wager being placed while said game piece is on a non-absorbent point that is
adjacent to at least one other non-absorbent point;
- 6 (b) observing ~~an event~~ one or more events that dictates to which ~~adjacent~~ point
the game piece must be moved, said one or more events providing for at
8 least a first outcome and a second outcome, wherein the first outcome
dictates a first dictated point to which the game piece must be moved and the
10 second outcome dictates a second dictated point to which the game piece
must be moved, and wherein the first and second dictated points are in
12 generally opposite directions from the point where the game piece is
currently located;
- 14 (c) determining whether the point to which the game piece must be moved is a
non-absorbent point, a first absorbent point, or a second absorbent point;
- 16 (d) if the point to which the game piece must be moved is a non-absorbent point,
moving the game piece to said non-absorbent point ~~regardless of whether or~~
18 ~~not the game piece ever previously occupied the point to which the game~~
~~piece must be moved~~ and repeating at least steps (b) and (c);
- 20 (e) awarding the player the at least one wager if the point to which the game
piece must be moved is a first absorbent point; and

22 (f) denying the player the at least one wager if the point to which the game
piece must be moved is a second absorbent point.

Claim 52. (previously added) The method of claim 51 further comprising
2 calculating an inchoate cargo in relation to the player's wager if the point to
which the game piece must be moved is a non-absorbent point.

Claim 53. (previously added) The method of claim 51 further comprising
2 selecting a starting non-absorbent point from more than one available starting
non-absorbent points.

Claim 54. (previously added) The method of claim 51 the wager involves a
2 selection of a particular one or more first absorbent points from more than one
first absorbent points.

Claim 55. (previously added) The method of claim 51 the wager involves a
2 selection of a particular one or more second absorbent points from more than
one second absorbent points.

Claim 56. (previously added) The method of claim 51 wherein the observed
2 event involves one or more decks of cards, one or more dice, one or more

coins, a roulette wheel, a sporting event, a horse race, a meteorological event,
4 or a computer.

Claim 57. (previously added) The method of claim 51 wherein the wager is
2 selected from a group consisting of a sink bet, a safe bet, a sink-emperor bet, a
safe-emperor bet, an insurance bet, a wager based on duration, a place bet, a
4 wager that the game-piece will enter one or more given states prior to entering
one or more other states, and any combination thereof.

Claim 58. (previously added) The method of claim 51 wherein the first absorbent
2 point corresponds to a safe point or a swim point and wherein the second
absorbent point corresponds to a sink point or an edge point.

Claim 59. (previously added) The method of claim 51 wherein the game is
2 played on a game board comprising one or more player stations, wherein each
player station comprises one or more betting areas.